

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /147 W

----- 088572

R 130801Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8148

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: PRC LEADERSHIP TURNOUT FOR POMPIDOU

SUMMARY. YAO WEN-YUAN STILL RANKS HIGH IN THE POLITUBRO, BUT WANG HUNG-WEN AND LI TE-SHENG, TWO WHO SHOT PAST HIM INTO THE NEW STANDING COMMITTEE, SHINE BRIGHTER. END SUMMARY.

1, NCNA, IN LISTING THE LEADERS WHO GREETED FRENCH PRESIDENT POMPIDOU'S SEPTEMBER 11 PEKING ARRIVAL, PLACED YAO WEN-YUAN FOLLOWED BY LI HSIEN-NIEN AHEAD OF WU TE. THIS DEPARTS FROM THE CHINESE STROKE-ORDER THAT HAS BEEN USED FOR LISTING POLITBURO MEMBERS SINCE THE CONGRESS AND SUGGEST A RANK ORDER. YAO'S BEING SO PLACED MEANS THE SHANGHAI RADICAL RETAINS A MEASURE OF HIS HIGH PRE-CONGRESS STANDING. HE APPARENTLY RANKS ELEVENTH, JUST AFTER THE NINE STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CHIANG CHING AND AHEAD OF THE TEN OTHER ORDINARY POLITBURO MEMBERS. (VICE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREMIER LI PROBABLY RANKS THIRTEENTH, AFTER YAO AND INACTIVE

ELDER LIU PO-CHENG, WIL WU FOLLOWING A STILL UNDERTERMINED DISTANCE  
BEHIND.)

2. MORE SIGNIFICANTLY, THE CELESTIAL STATUS OF WNAG HUNG-WEN--  
THE MAN WHO HAS REPLACED YAO AS CHINA'S TOP "YOUNG CADRE"--  
CONTINUES TO BE PROMINENTLY SIGNALLED BY CHINESE MEDIA. WE NOTE  
NCNA DESCRIBED WANG AS GREETING POMPIDOU AND CHOU AT THE DOOR  
WHEN THE FRENCH PRESIDENT CALLED ON MAO SEPTEMBER 12, AND THEN AS  
PARTICIPATING IN THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS.

3. NCNA IS ALSO FLAGGING THE IMPORTANCE OF PLA POLITICAL CHIEF  
LI TE-SHENG, WHO LIKE WANG, WAS A BIG WINNER AT THE TENTH  
CONGRESS. ON SEPTEMBER 11 NCNA REPORTED LI'S LEAVING  
NORTH KOREA AFTER A BRIEF THREE-DAY  
STAY. LI'S DEPARTURE IS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE  
CONTINUED PRESENCE IN NORTH KOREA OF THE FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION HE TOOK  
THERE. APPARENTLY LI IS NEEDED FOR MORE URGENT DUTIES AT HOME.  
WHILE THESE DUTIES COULD BE CONNECTED WITH THE POMPIDOU VISIT,  
HE HAS NOT YET PUBLICLY APPEARED FOR ANY OF THE VISIT-RELATED  
FUNCTIONS.  
OSBORN

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## Message Attributes

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